

## Introduction

### *Purpose of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan*

The purpose of the Washington State Hazard Mitigation Plan is to provide guidance for hazard mitigation in the State of Washington. It identifies hazard mitigation goals, objectives and recommended actions and initiatives for Washington state government that will reduce or prevent injury and damage from natural hazards. Agency annexes to the plan provide strategies for participating state agencies that will improve their resistance to the affects of a natural hazard-caused disaster.

This plan meets requirements for a Standard State Plan under Interim Final Rule 44 CFR 201.4, published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency on February 28, 2002, and for an Enhanced State Plan under Interim Final Rule 44 CFR 201.5, also published by FEMA on February 28, 2002. A crosswalk of plan contents to the requirements of these regulations is in this tab after this section.

Meeting the requirements of the regulations noted above keeps the State of Washington qualified to obtain all disaster assistance including hazard mitigation grants available through the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, P.L. 93-288, as amended.

### *Plan Organization*

The Washington State Hazard Mitigation Plan contains several sections:

- Plan Summary, Tab 2, which provides a synopsis of the risk assessment and of the recommended action plan described in the mitigation strategy.
- Introduction to the State of Washington, its geography, climate, economy, government and natural hazards, Tab 3.
- Description of the process used to develop this plan, Tab 4.
- Description of the coordination of this plan with local planning, Tab 5.
- Description of how this plan will be maintained once approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Tab 6.
- Risk Assessment, Tab 7, which includes profiles of the nine natural hazards faced by the State of Washington, Tabs 7.1.1 – 7.1.9, and socioeconomic profiles of the nine regions of the state, Tabs 7.2.1 – 7.2.9. A synopsis of the at-risk facilities owned or operated by the state agency partners of this plan are found throughout these tabs.

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- Mitigation Strategy, Tab 8, which includes hazard mitigation goals for the state, and a list of recommended actions and initiatives to improve the state's resistance to natural hazard-caused disasters.
- Description of how the state meets the Enhanced Plan criteria, Tab 9.
- Copy of the state's administrative plan for federally funded hazard mitigation grant programs, Tab 10.
- State agency hazard mitigation, Tab 11, starting with the planning guide that participating state agencies used to develop their annexes to this plan, Tab 11.1, and the state agency annexes themselves, Tab 11.2 – 11.28. The state agency annexes identify at-risk facilities, as well as agency goals and strategies to reduce vulnerability and future damage from natural hazards.

### *Assurances*

The State of Washington will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 CFR 12.11(c). The Washington State Hazard Mitigation Plan will be amended according to the process described in Plan Maintenance, Tab 6, whenever necessary to reflect changes in State or Federal statutes as required in 44 CFR 13.11(d).

### *Acknowledgements*

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State agencies participating in the plan and their principal planners who wrote annexes and provided other support for the state plan (see Planning Process, Tab 4 for agencies and names of principal planners).

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